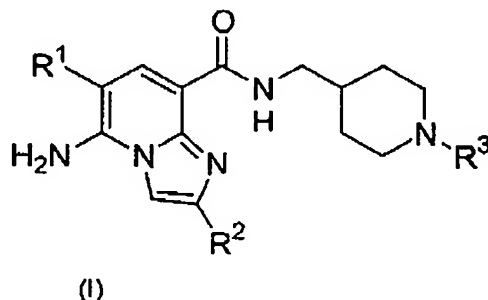


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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-12 (canceled).

13. (previously presented) A compound of the formula (I):



wherein,

R¹ represents hydrogen or a halogen;

R² represents methyl or ethyl;

R³ represents (a) 3 to 6 carbon branched alkyl or (b) 3 to 6 carbon straight or branched alkyl which is substituted by 1 to 6 carbon alkoxy; with the proviso that when said alkoxy substitutes a terminal carbon, then said alkyl (b) is branched alkyl; including a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. (previously presented) The compound of claim 13, wherein R¹ represents hydrogen or chlorine.

15. (previously presented) The compound of claim 13, wherein R¹ represents chlorine.

16. (previously presented) The compound of any one of claims 13 to 15, wherein R³ represents isobutyl or tert-butylethyl, either of which may be substituted by methoxy.

17. (previously presented) A compound selected from:

5-amino-N-[(1-isobutylpiperidin-4-yl)methyl]-2-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

5-amino-6-chloro-N-[[1-(3,3-dimethylbutyl)piperidin-4-yl]methyl]-2-ethylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

5-amino-6-chloro-2-ethyl-N-[[1-(2-methoxy-2-methylpropyl)piperidin-4-

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yl)methyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

5-amino-6-chloro-2-methyl-N-[(1-(2-methoxy-2-methylpropyl)piperidin-4-

yl)methyl)imidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

5-amino-6-chloro-N-[(1-isobutylpiperidin-4-yl)methyl]-2-methylimidazo[1,2-a]pyridine-8-carboxamide;

any of which may take the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

18. (previously presented) The compound of claim 13, which is formulated as a pharmaceutical composition alone or in combination with at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19 - 20 (canceled).

21. (new) A method of treating or preventing gastroesophageal reflux disease comprising administering to a mammalian subject in need thereof an effective amount of the compound of claim 13, alone or in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

22. (new) A method of treating or preventing gastroesophageal reflux disease comprising administering to a mammalian subject in need thereof an effective amount of the compound of claim 17, alone or in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.